



The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society's **EXCITER**

GET INVOLVED

- RARS General Membership meeting: Second Tuesday of the month.
- The RARS net meets every night except Saturday @ 8 p.m. on 146.640.
- The RARS Technical & Trader's net: Saturdays @ 8:00 PM on 146.64.
- RARS meets for a monthly dinner on the First Tuesday of each month.



PUBLIC SERVICE EVENTS

Interested in helping? Visit
<https://www.rars.org/public-service.php>

frequently for our 2020
ham public service
schedule.

RARS General Meeting

Topic: RARSfest Update,

Awards & RARS Birthday Party

Presenter: Tara Goodwin W4TSW

Date: March 10, 2020

Time: Meeting at 7:30 PM

Informal gathering and refreshments from 7 - 7:30 p.m.

Where: Ridge Road Baptist Church. 2011 Ridge Rd., Raleigh

New HAM meeting, 6:00 p.m. before member meeting
Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, New Ham Meeting Coordinator

[Click here for more information.](#)

February 2020 RARS

Net Monthly Summary

Checkins: 482

Traffic Brought/Passed: 3/3

Minutes: 958

Sessions: 29

Virginia Enzor NC4VA

RARS Net Manager

RARS Officers

PRESIDENT

John Honeycutt
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jfh49@bellsouth.net

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The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society

The Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, Inc. (RARS) was founded in 1969 and continues to serve and support the amateur radio community in the greater Triangle area. In 1999, the society incorporated a new RARS and obtained 501(c)(3) non-profit tax status.

The objectives of the club are to promote worldwide friendship through amateur radio; to be of public service by providing radio communications in times of disaster, emergency, or civic needs; to educate members in radio technique, and to provide training classes to assist in obtaining amateur radio licenses.

Anyone interested in amateur radio is eligible to apply for membership. Dues for regular licensed amateurs are \$18 per year (from July 1 through June 30). Additional immediate family members pay \$5 each per year. Dues for licensed amateurs older than 59 or younger than 16 are \$12 per year. Dues for non-licensed associate members are \$9 per year. Applications for membership may be obtained from the treasurer or on the RARS website (www.rars.org).

Exciter

The Exciter is the official newsletter of the Raleigh Amateur Radio Society. It appears each month as a PDF on the RARS website at www.rars.org. Members receive email notification when the latest version is available. Please provide your email address to the Treasurer.

The Exciter welcomes articles, advertisements, and other contributions. To submit a piece to the newsletter, please contact the Editor. The Editor reserves the right to edit any and all pieces. The submission deadline for each month's Exciter is the Saturday that is ten days before the general meeting. All submissions must be final. Drafts are not accepted.

The views expressed in the Exciter are those of the individual authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor or RARS.

Tom Lewis, N4TL, editor (editor@rars.org)

For Your Information

RARS General Meeting

Date: Second Tuesday of each month

Location: Ridge Road Baptist Church 2011
Ridge Road Raleigh, NC, 27607

Time: People begin arriving at 7 p.m. The meeting officially begins at 7:30 p.m.

RARS Monthly Dinner

All members and guests are welcome to the monthly (first Tuesday) RARS Supper, 6:30PM, at the IHOP Restaurant, 7471 Six Forks road, 27615. Its on the corner of Six Forks road and Sawmill Road, 6:30 PM to 8PM They have a room for us that is to the left when you enter the restaurant. Informal and Dutch, just bring your appetite and best rag to chew.

RARS Repeaters in Raleigh

146.640 and 444.525

Join us for the nightly RARS net at 8 p.m. on the 146.640 repeater. All hams holding a Technician class license or higher are invited to check in. We welcome both RARS and non-RARS members to the net.

There is a net Listing on the RARS website click here. <https://www.rars.org/nets.php>

VE Testing

The RARS VEs will accept walk-in testing in February, May, August and November at 5:30PM, prior to RARS membership meetings at Ridge Road Baptist Church; the RARSfest in April; the Cary Swapfest in July; the JARS-Fest in November; and following RARS license classes. Please bring a photo ID, your original and a copy of your current license, your \$14 exam fee, and any valid CSCEs that prove passing elements beyond that of your current license. Visit <https://www.rars.org> for more information.

Interesting websites

Sent to the exciter by Charles Strickland, WA4OSS. Lots of information on antennas, cables, and other ham radio topics.

<http://www.ifwtech.co.uk/g3sek/in-prac/>

This came from Charlie, WA3UTC and Howard, N4KYW. Here is some neat stuff and cheap.

<https://www.electroresales.com/home.html>

Another website with manuals.

<http://www.manualslib.com/>

Certificate of Code Proficiency

Vibroplex and the ARRL are recognizing merit in code proficiency. It is for Amateurs who have copied code from W1AW during a qualifying run. In the march 2020 issue of QST, on page 88 is the latest list. Congratulations to **Carl Davis, W8WZ** who achieved 25 WPM. To qualify you have to legibly copy at least one minute of code correctly.

RARS February Meeting Presentation



Left: Dennis Sweeney, WA4LPR
Talking about the technical aspects of microwaves on ham radio.



Right: Stan Dillon, K4RCA, making a 10 G contact.
Stan talked about some of the operational aspects of microwaves.

The entire presentation is located at this URL.

https://www.rars.org/exciters/2020/Microwave_Presentation3_II.pdf

RARS February Meeting Presentation



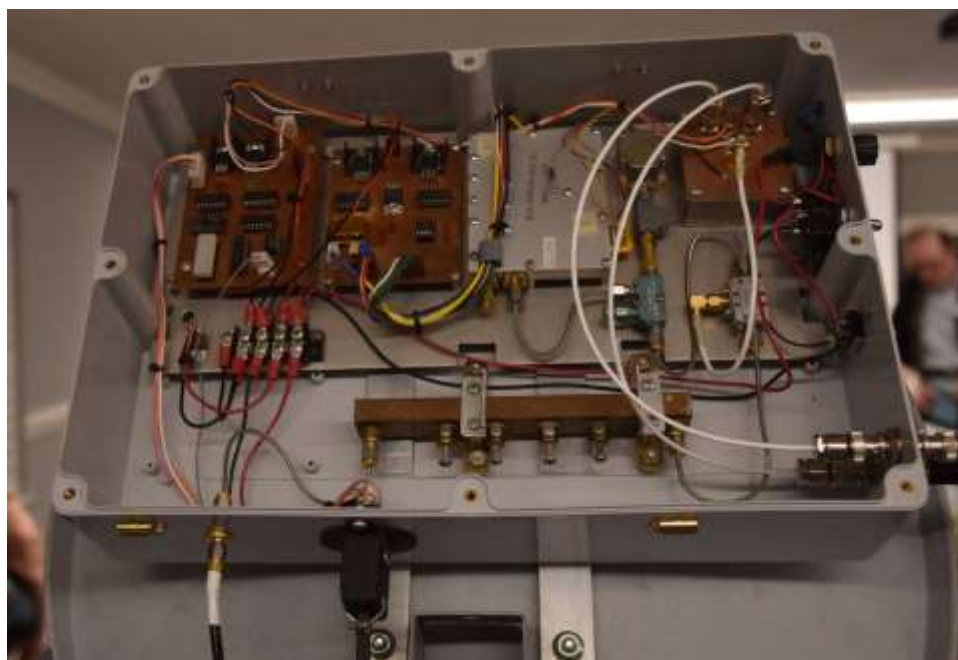
Left Pix: 10 GHz Rig. High stability crystal control allows the same modes as HF/VHF: CW/SSB/FM/Digital. The antenna is a modified TV dish. Can work non-line of sight paths.

There is a BRMS group on groups IO.

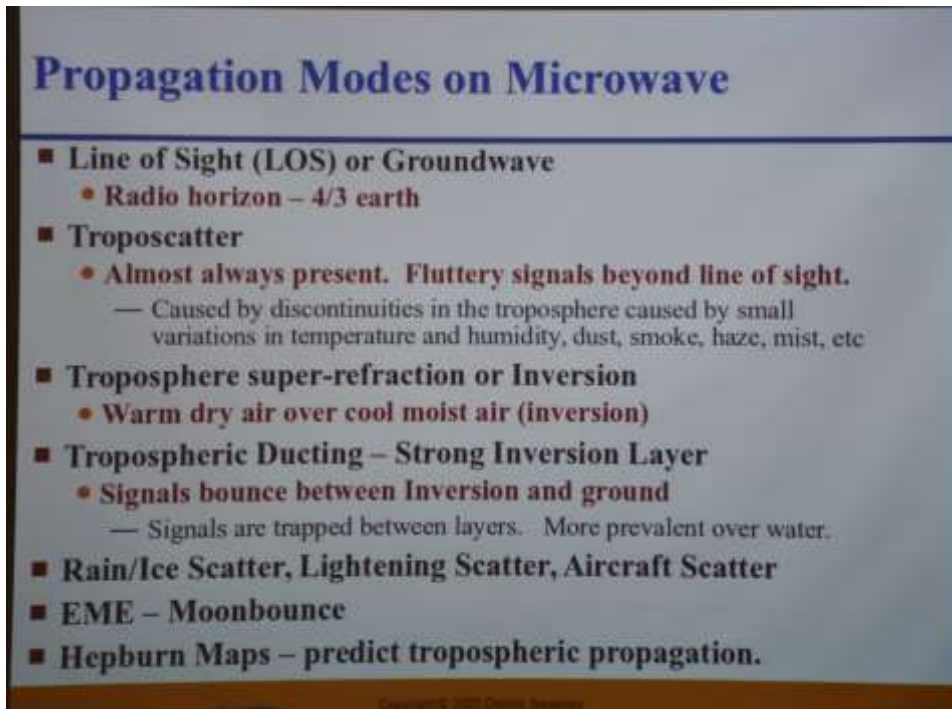
<https://groups.io/g/brms>.

Several folks joined group after the meeting.

Bottom Pix: Control circuitry, local oscillator with phase lock, and filter for 10 GHz high stability rig.



RARS February Meeting Presentation



Fun things to do with microwaves!



Stan's K4RCA control box with Flex digital radio and 2m transceiver for narrowband microwave.

RARS February Meeting Presentation



Gunnplexer radio: Front



Gunnplexer radio: Rear with Antenna

Gunnplexer radio: simple wideband FM 10 GHz radio.
Can work just about any line of sight path. Its duplex voice is fun to use

RARS February Meeting Presentation



Mark, KM4JRH, talking to Stan, K4RCA on 10 Ghz.

One unit transmits on 10,250 MHz and with the 30 MHz IF that makes the receive 10,280 MH. The other one uses the opposite frequencies. The two units are transmitting all the time so the contact is full duplex.

A number of RARS members made their first 10 GHZ contact during the meeting.

More information can be found at this website.

<https://www.w4gso.org/news/blue-ridge-microwave-society/>

February Membership Meeting, Door Prize Winners



Bob Richards, W4GIA; Anthony Laszlo, W4BMX



This Months Door Prizes

RARS Birthdays

Carl	KJ4WD	03/01
Marty	W4MY	03/02
Barbara	KK4TLY	03/02
Mason Williams		03/03
Jean Paul	W4MGD	03/03
Bill	KN4GYS	03/04
Sharon	KD4ACK	03/06
Karl	W4CHX	03/06
Rich	KR4AS	03/08
James	AJ4M	03/08
Bob	WA4ZZN	03/12
David	KF4VXJ	03/12
Pam	KK4IPN	03/13
Tom	KJ4ULP	03/14
Larry	K4LXV	03/17
Roger	K4KLK	03/17
Eddie	WK4I	03/18
Murray	K4MHM	03/20
Chuk	KB4MDZ	03/21
John	W2KI	03/22
Greg	KE4PAX	03/23
Edward	WQ2X	03/25
Alan	KK4HUX	03/30
Dave	K4DME	03/30
John	AF4ZE	03/30

*Everyone is
welcome!*



11:30 AM every Thursday a group of Hams get together for Lunch at Taco Bell. The address is 7036 E Hwy 64 Knightdale, 27545. 1.2 miles east of I540.

New Members

Tom Neal	N3Ri
Ted Webb	W4NE
Jean-Phillip Sabin	KO4BZB
Tyler McGee	KO4BZA
Elder Hanks	N7MQU

New HAM meeting, 6:00 p.m. before the member meeting

Tadd Torborg, KA2DEW, New Ham meeting Coordinator

The New Hams meeting is held every month before the regular RARS meeting. We'll try to start by 6pm. We try to address topics in a manner that will be of help to hams in their first year of operation.



Tadd Torborg demonstrated the use of heat shrink tubing.

Future RARS Meeting Topics

Titles, topics, and speakers subject to change.

3/10/2020	Awards, RARS Birthday Party & RARSfest Update RARSfest date April 11th	RARSfest Chair Tara Goodwin, W4TSW
4/14/2020	80 foot tower installation with 40/30 Optibeam	Dave Wood, W4EJ
5/12/2020	IEEE-USA Mobile Outreach Vehicle Truck Introduction https://move.ieeeusa.org/	Jay Diepenbrock, KM4EP
6/9/2020	Field Day	Field Day Chair Bob Starkenburg, W4TTX
7/14/2020	Patrolling The Ether: The FCC's "Radio Intelligence Division" (RID) in WWII	Brian Harrison, KN4R

Future Hamfests

A full list of Hamfests can be found at the
[ARRL website.](#)

03/13/2020 | Charlotte Hamfest, ARRL North Carolina Section Convention 2020

Location: Concord, NC
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Mecklenburg Amateur Radio Society
Website: <http://www.charlottehamfest.org>

04/11/2020 | Raleigh Hamfest, ARRL Roanoke Division Convention

RARSfest
Location: Raleigh, NC
Type: ARRL Convention
Sponsor: Raleigh Amateur Radio Society
Website: <http://rarsfest.org>

05/30/2020 - DurHamFest 2020

Location: Durham, NC
Type: ARRL Hamfest
Sponsor: Durham FM Association
Website: <http://dfma.org>



Antique Radio Conference

The Annual AWA-NC vintage radio collectors conference will be March 26 to 28, 2020. For more information visit their website.

<http://cc-awa.club/>



RARSfest 2020

Tickets

Pre-Registration \$9.00

At Door: \$10.00

- Huge All Indoor Flea Market with 230+ Tables.
- Commercial dealer booths.
- Door Prizes.
- Walk-In License Exams.

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- Hands-On You-Build-It Project Table.
 - Meetings and Forums.
 - QSL Card checking for ARRL and CQ awards.
 - Indoor Fox Hunt.
 - Satellite Communications Demonstration
-

100,000 SQ Foot INDOOR

April 11th
8am-3pm



RARSfest NEEDS YOU

RARS members please volunteer a few hours or more at one of areas listed on the RARS website.

<https://www.rars.org/helpwanted.html>

RARSfest - Member Sales Table



The Member Sales Tables provides a way for RARS members to sell their personal equipment, and still support RARSfest. The staff at the Members Sales Tables take care of selling the equipment while the owners work at other RARSfest tasks.

RARSfest volunteer workers: Register your items for the Member Sales Table [HERE](#)

Tektronix Scope



It worked the last time it was turned on

Image from <https://vintagetek.org/photo-of-the-month/>

<https://www.rars.org>

46th DurHamFest

Same Great Location – New Date

Air Conditioned Easy Access

Durham Public Schools Staff Development Center

2107 Hillandale Road, Durham, NC 27705

Saturday, May 30, 2020

(Saturday AFTER Memorial Day)

8:30 am – 12:30 pm

(Vendor Setup starts at 7:00 am)

Admission: \$5.00 Tailgate Space: \$5.00

Indoor Tables: \$12.00 (8 ft.)

Indoor Space – no table: \$8.00

Vendor Contact: General Info:

Linda Jackson - KF4LJZ Dee Ramm – KU4GC

kf4ljz@aol.com durhamfest@dfma.org

(919) 805-0289 (919) 257-1098

VE TESTING --- PRIZES --- GREAT FOOD

For More Info: dfma.org

Contests

Carl, W8WZ

Contests tend to elicit one of two reactions from hams.

#1. Oh great! I can't wait to spend as much time as possible on the air with the biggest station I can put together and see how many points I can earn this year! I may even try and dehydrate myself so that I don't have to waste time with bathroom breaks.

Or

#2. Ugh, the bands will be all jammed up. I guess I'll spend the weekend doing yardwork.

There is a third way however. I call it "playing at contests" and this way can be a lot of fun for us casual operator types.

Let me start off by saying that I have nothing but respect for the real contesters. They demand the most performance possible from their stations and have spent years honing skills that will give them a competitive edge. Many have spent many dollars and many hours to compete at their maximum potential and their feats are amazing. Big contesters are among the most serious hams around and my hat is off to them. I am not one of them though. My operating style is much more casual and leads towards rag chews, NTS nets, and using lots of vintage gear.

However, that does not stop me from using contests to have fun. For each contest that I am going to participate in, I set a personal goal and use the contest to meet that goal.

Each Wednesday is the CW Operator's club mini test or CWT. I work the 8AM to 9AM Eastern timeslot and my goal each week is to see how many people I can work, then to look at the list and see how many of them I have met in person or had a rag chew with on the air. I never submit a log. That is a simple contest with a simple goal.

Last weekend was the ARRL DX CW contest, one of the biggest contests of the year. The goal of the contest is to learn about HF and MF propagation by contacting as many stations in other countries as possible during the contest period. American stations sent a signal report and their state. DX Stations sent a signal report and their power level. Americans only work DX stations during this contest. Hearing all the different states was helpful to judge propagation at a particular time and hearing the power level of the different DX stations was helpful to judge the impact that different power levels have from similarly distant locations.

I set two personal goals for myself during this contest. #1. I wanted to see how many different entities I could work during a 24-hour period. #2. I wanted to spend time on 80, 40, 20 and 15 meters at different times of day to observe the current state of propagation on those frequencies to hear if the bands truly are "dead" or not.

To start with, I checked my antenna and made sure that the markings on my tuner and amplifier for use on each band were accurate so that I could change bands more quickly. I use an 80 meter inverted V up 100 feet fed with ladder line for use on all bands with the help of my matching network. Then I brought one of

my iPads into the shack. Since my shack does not have a computer, I used the iPad to look up the QRZ.com pages of the different stations I was working to confirm their locations as my knowledge of the various prefixes for all of the different countries is a bit rusty. Next, I used my old spiral bound ARRL logbook to log the contacts and a note pad to jot down each new entity as it was worked. A real contestester would use a computer for all of that, but I don't enjoy that. So That was it. I was ready.!

I was "contest ready" when the bands lit up. And light up they did. Any talk that the bands are "dead" is very wrong. I can say that I worked DX for the entire contest weekend and that 20 meters was alive with wall to wall signals the entire time. 40 meters was alive except for the period of about noon to 3 pm each day when it slumped and only other Americans could be heard. 40 was so slow that at noon I actually had a 30-minute rag chew with a ham in Ohio on 7.028 in the middle of the contest and we were not interrupted at all and I did it with the 1.2Khz filter setting open the entire time! No DX on 40 from noon until about 2 but I enjoyed the rag chew with Cleveland. A real contestester would have been up on 20 or 15 then. Life on 40 changed around 2 PM however and the band was gangbusters again. 80 meters was alive each time I checked during the evening and I made many several nice contacts on 80, taking time out to check into 2 traffic nets since I was on 80 anyway (something else a real contestester would not do). 15 meters was full of South American and Caribbean stations all afternoon on Sunday. I stayed in the bottom 25 KHz of that band and made about 50 contacts in the course of an hour which is a pretty good rate for me, with manual logging, etc. Since I hadn't worked that band yet I did not need to check for dupes before calling anyone so I could move quite fast.

Here are some pictures from the band scope on my Icom IC7300 that show how full the bands were. The time on the radio is set to Eastern Standard. These pictures are of 40 meters and all the other bands were equally as full.



ICOM IC-7300



ICOM IC-7300



ICOM IC-7300

By simply starting at the bottom of the band and tuning up until I heard a new country, then calling that station using the rig's built in keyer, I was able to work 34 countries in about 5 hours of operating spread over a 24-hour period. I made a total of just over 300 QSOs in total and used 80, 40, 20 and 15 meters. I learned that those bands are capable of producing worldwide communications even in the current sunspot

cycle. 40 was especially wonderful with an S zero to S1 noise floor the entire weekend.

I did not work any rare DX and don't think I even worked any "new ones", but I did have a lot of fun and filled the logbook with several pages of legitimate DX.

Countries worked: Honduras, Cuba, Turks and Caicos, Canada, Croatia, Republic of North Macedonia, Germany, Slovenia, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Russia, Italy, Slovak Republic, Costa Rica, Spain, Poland, Ireland, Madeira Island, Indonesia, Serbia, Balearic Islands, Turkey, France, Portugal, Mexico, Curacao, Norway, Scotland, Finland, Canary Islands, St. Kitts and Nevis, Aruba, Brazil, and Argentina.

And every one of them gave me a 599 signal report!

While a contest signal report cannot be relied upon for accuracy, I can say that every station I called answered me and only 3 out of more than 300 didn't answer me on my very first call. If they didn't answer me on my first call, I turned on the amp and called them with 500W and was then answered. Since I am not submitting a log to compete in the contest, changing my power level whenever I wanted to didn't matter to me. I only needed the amp for 3 of my QSOs, so 99% of those QSOs were made barefoot on the first call. That makes me feel confident that my antenna system is satisfactory to my needs.

Some countries had a lot more contacts than others. I worked a lot of hams in Slovenia, Slovak Republic, Czech Republic and Serbia. I also worked a lot of French and Italian stations. I think that these countries tend to have fairly high ham activity. I also work them frequently when rag chewing on 40 late at night so I think my antenna system might have some gain into those locales. The contest was helpful for me to learn more about my station.

Next year my goal will be to see if I can top 34 countries. Since I logged manually, I had to manually check for dupes before calling a station and then write down my contact information with the fountain pen in the log book. A real contester would be horrified by this glacial pace and have everything computerized. Also, when I got tired, I went to bed. When I got hungry, I went downstairs and fixed supper. I grilled a steak Saturday afternoon and took a nap after. When my phone rang, I turned off the radio and talked to the person calling me. When it was time for Church, I unplugged everything and went. These are behaviors that serious testers avoid as they lower the QSO rate. But, I'm "playing at the contest" so I'm happy to do these things. I'm not even submitting a log because my log is spiral bound in my ARRL book and I have no desire to do data entry into a format to submit as that feels like work, and I don't care. If something in the hobby is not fun to me, I don't do it. But I still enjoy the contest, and so can you.

I encourage you to look at what contests are coming up and set personal goals for each of them. Maybe you want to get on the air for the NC QSO Party and just see how many different counties you can contact. Or maybe you want to see how many different bands you can use to make contacts around our state on that day. Maybe you want to make as many CW contacts, or SSB contacts as possible. It's ok to use contests to meet your own personal goals. You don't have to compete seriously to enjoy them. You don't even have to submit a log and you can take as many bathroom breaks as you want.

73 Carl, W8WZ

A NECESSARY ACCESSORY CHINA LEFT OUT

Howard A. Goodman, N4KYW

You've probably encountered this many times. While perusing eBay you come across a nice looking previously owned mobile rig. The accompanying photos reveal the rig, most likely Chinese in manufacture, is pristine. But one look at its hand-held microphone and there it is: another dangling RJ45 Modular Plug that appears as though it's lost a game of tug-of-war.

The RJ45 suffers from lack of a integral strain relief. Stated from a different perspective, this connector was not designed for applications where tugging or twisting on the cord is inevitable. Eventually, the outer sheath of the mic cord separates from the shell of the RJ45, exposing the individual conductors, thus rendering them vulnerable to further damage.

Recently, I purchased a new Anytone AT-778 dual-band mobile and discovered its mic cord was terminated with an RJ45. After muttering assorted expletives at my lack of attention to this detail, I swore I'd never let the mic cord of this rig suffer the same fate.

To prevent this problem from occurring I designed and threw together the following strain relief add-on. If I had it to do over again I'd probably arrive at a different design. In fact, what you see in these photos is the second iteration of my original design. I started with a length of aluminum bar stock rescued from the junk box. I deliberately do



mic cord strain relief

not specify dimensions here because they vary from rig to rig. But I think you'll get the general idea.

Once assembled as shown above, plug the mic's RJ45 connector into the jack on the front panel of the rig. Attach the strain relief bar to the rig's mounting bracket using the original knob screw. Finally, snug down the cable clamp until it grips the mic cord. NOTE: Cable clamp size is determined by the diameter of the mic cord and must grip cord solidly. Optional accessory: Add mic hanger to bar.

Theory of Operation: Cable clamp essentially "shorts" most or all cord tension to the strain relief bar. Result is that the interface between the mic cord and the RJ45 now experiences little or no tug.



mic cord strain relief

RARS Classifieds

Copied from <https://www.rars.org/classifieds.php>

The items below were listed within the last 30 days on the RARS website.

1960s EICO HFT-90 Tube FM Tuner.

Posted February 25th, 2020 by: N4TL

Contact: n4tl2@yahoo.com

Free 1960s EICO HFT-90 Tube FM Tuner. This tuner was sold as a kit. The FM front end was preassembled. The rest of the unit had to be assembled by the buyer. This one has some rust on the power transformer and some on the chassis. I brought the power up slowly on a Variac. The IF and audio sections work. The preassembled tuner is not working. I was going to throw it away but someone who likes tube audio equipment may want to fix it. You can find a schematic by searching with google for "EICO HFT 90 Schematic", click on images. Send me an email if you want it.

Sony DVD Home theatre system.

Posted February 25th, 2020 by: N4TL

Contact: n4tl2@yahoo.com

This is a DVD player with a built in audio amplifier for a 5.1 audio system. It also has an AM and FM receiver, with remote control.

Unfortunately, the speaker stands for the speakers are all missing. The speaker wires have two pin connectors that plug in the back of the unit. These special 2 pin connectors are missing.

I tested the unit with clip leads to connect the speakers. Everything I checked works.

You can read about it at Crutchfield.

https://www.crutchfield.com/S-1vA7txbHwug/p_158DAVFX5H/Sony-DAV-FX500.html

Free, as is. 73 Tom N4TL

MASTECH DIGITAL MULTI-METER, MODEL 8261

Posted February 20th, 2020 by: N4KYW

Contact: howagood@yahoo.com

Full function multi-meter. Like new condx. 3/4 inch tall display characters. Measures AC/DC Voltage, Current, Resistance, Diode Integrity, Capacitance, hFE of NPN and PNP transistors (with included attachment). Test probes, battery, user manual included. Currently sells for around \$30 new. Your 'Taco Thursday' price: \$20

RARS Classifieds continued

Rg58 or rg8 mini coax

Posted March 2nd, 2020 by: WZ0Q

Contact: wz0q@outlook.com

I am looking for a 30'length of cheap coax with connectors.any one with any leftovers.

Contact me.

919-413-5998

Dennis

wz0q

RARS Board Meeting Minutes – January 21, 2020

Ridge Road Baptist Church
2011 Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC

[John Honeycutt](#) opened the meeting at 7:00 PM. The following were in attendance:

Members:

John Honeycutt
Tom Lewis
Greg Seamster
Mark Kilmer
Chuck Littlewood
Alan Pitegoff
Richard Kroeger
Ken Latchum
Tadd Torborg
Hank Montgomery

Visitors:

<https://www.rars.org>

RARS Board Meeting Minutes continued

Brantly West

A quorum was present and the previous minutes were approved.

Officer/Committee Reports:

President:

John distributed the treasurer's report provided by Greg.

Vice President: The February 11th club meeting topic will be presented by Dr. Dennis Sweeney, WA4LPR and Stan Dillon, K4RCA of the Blue Ridge Microwave Society.

Secretary:

Our shirt vendor is currently working to implement the on-line order process. A number of the new club patches were sold at the last club meeting.

At Large Director – Alan Pitegoff

Alan has replaced Joanne Ann Mars at the reception table.

There still seems to be a problem with control of the buildings temperature.

VE Coordinator:

There will be a VE session at the February club meeting.

Webmaster:

Hank has found a security issue with the Board only document protection on the website

New Business:

Discussion of open position of Public Service Director.

The position of Public Service Director is currently open. PS is a cross-club organization targeted at Emergency Services. Brian Young, KA9QJT is on the PS committee. He has requested a temporary point of contact on the board to represent RARS, until the permanent position can be filled.

RARSfest.

The following items on the RARS website need to be added or updated:

The volunteer sign-up form.

RARS Board Meeting Minutes continued

The link to the "J-Wire" project video.

Notes from the last planning meeting need to be distributed

QSO event.

The event will include NC and SC on back to back days. a link to the QSO party website should be added to the exciter.

RARS Birthday Party:

The March meeting is the RARS birthday party and awards ceremony. Chuck Littlewood will chair the awards committee, but suggestions are needed to help nominate recipients.

New HAM meeting:

Cost of materials will now be reimbursed from the education line item of the budget. Meeting time should be added to the nightly net script.

Youth Committee.

Brantly West presented ideas to help the club reach out to young people and become more involved with the local youth groups.

Action Items:

John Honeycutt:

Contact the church about the temperature control.

Update the church with the new Board members contact information.

Inquire of Joe and Liz White as to whether they will sponsor a QSO party event.

Contact Jeff Wittich to have new board members added and old members removed from rars-l.

Appointed Chuck, K4HF as RARS Awards Committee Chair for the March 2020

RARS Birthday Party Meeting. All Board members need to be looking for and reporting deserving candidates.

Mark Kilmer:

Contact Brian Young to discuss the Public Service organizational responsibilities and gather additional information.

RARS Board Meeting Minutes continued

Serve as temporary POC for Public Service.

Hank Montgomery:

Add links to the website.

Sign-up form for RARS*fest*.

Video link for "J-Wire" project.

Link to QSO party website.

Tadd Torborg:

Contact Virginia Enzor to have the New HAM Meeting time added to the net script.

Tara Goodwin:

Contact RARS*fest* chairs to verify information for Volunteer sign-ups.

Distribute notes from last meeting.

Brantly West:

Write an article for the Exciter expressing the need for volunteers to establish a Youth Committee.

Greg Seamster:

Obtain a current insurance certificate for the church.

Chuck Littlewood:

Contact Tara to request notes from the last RARS*fest* planning meeting.

John Honeycutt adjourned the meeting at 9:08 PM

RARS Membership Meeting Minutes – February 11, 2020

Ridge Road Baptist Church
2011 Ridge Road
Raleigh, NC

In John Honeycutt's absence (N8ZU), the meeting was called to order, by Vice President Tom Lewis (N4TL), at 7:19 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was recited.

Tom called for visitor Introductions.

A quorum was present and the January minutes were approved.

Officer Reports:

President:

Not present at meeting.

Vice President:

The March club meeting will be RARS birthday party and the RARSfest update.
By the RARSfest Chair, Tara Goodwin:

The April meeting will feature Dave Wood (W4EJ). The topic will be:
Raising an 80' tilt tower

The next Board meeting will be February 18th. All members are invited.

Made note of the RARS monthly dinner, Taco Thursday and the after meeting gathering at Rudino's.

Secretary:

No report

Treasurer:

Not present at meeting. Report sent through e-mail. See Greg Seamster (KE4PAX) for details.

Special Announcements:

Jeremy Lindsley (KB4JDL), who is replacing John Stone as Public Service Director, described the events and equipment required. Events are posted on the

RARS Members meeting minutes continued

RARS website.

Door Prizes:

Winners of this months door prizes.

Bob Richards, W4GIA

Anthony Laszlo, W4BMX

New HAM Meeting:

Tadd Torborg demonstrated the use of heat shrink tubing.

Director and Committee Reports:

Director at Large, Alan Pitegoff:

A video providing instruction for the construction of the “Wire J-Pole” antenna is now available on the RARS website under RARSfest Activities. Those who wish to build an antenna are encouraged to watch the video prior to the RARSfest .

RARSfest Chair, Tara Goodwin:

Reached out for volunteers to work. Sign-up is available on the RARS site.

Members, who have volunteered to work, can register their sale items at www.rarsfest.org website.

Program:

Microwave equipment and communication on the HAM bands.

Presented by the Blue Ridge Microwave Society.

After the meeting, attendees were invited to make a 10 GHz QSO.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.